Commique for APMEN VCWG Annual and Business meeting 2018
3-5 September 2018, Bangkok, Thailand

Eliminating malaria transmission in the Asia-Pacific region

Progress in malaria elimination across the Asia-Pacific is at critical cross-roads, threatened by the spread of multidrug resistant falciparum malaria and continued transmission among marginalized and mobile populations living and working in conditions beyond the reach of traditional malaria control interventions.

Last week, the Asia Pacific Malaria Elimination Network Vector Control Working Group (APMEN VCWG) convened 16 country members and 19 institutional partners from across the region – from Pakistan to Vanuatu, from national vector borne disease control programs, public and private partner institutions-to analyze country-specific and shared challenges being faced across the region and develop a collective response across countries and sectors. Tactically, mechanisms were strengthened to share information and best practices to build human and systems capacity, improve vector surveillance and identification techniques, explore innovative strategies to understand and engage the at-risk populations with practical vector control options, and to develop the evidence-base and interventions for outdoor transmission where traditional treated mosquito nets and spraying are not appropriate intervention tools.

Strategically, APMEN recognizes the need for political commitment, where Asia Pacific Leaders’ Malaria Alliance will continuously be engaged, for continued Civil Service investment in public health entomology posts and career structures, the foundation of malaria elimination and vector-borne disease control in the region, as well as strengthened national regulatory authority capacities to enable access to existing and new vector control tools under development. Details are available at http://apmen.org/